

TOBYHANNA REPORTER

Permit No. 50
First Class
U.S. Postage Paid
Tobyhanna, PA 18466

VOL. 50, No. 22

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, TOBYHANNA, PA.

(WWW.TOBYHANNA.ARMY.MIL)

NOVEMBER 21, 2006

NEWS NOTES

Depot schedules Christmas parties

The annual Christmas parties are scheduled for Dec. 13 and 14 in the main cafeteria. Special guests from several local schools and organizations, such as Dunmore Elementary and the Gino J. Merli Veterans Center, will attend.

Entertainment includes the depot choir, local sports mascots, cartoon characters, The Twins DJs, clowns, and members of the civilian and military work force.

Each visitor will receive a tote bag with a knit hat, gloves, personal items, toys and a coloring book. They will also receive a stocking filled with candy, cookies, crackers and other snacks.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will appear at the Christmas parties, the tree lighting ceremony at The Landing on Dec. 11 at 5 p.m., and at 15 to 20 organizations off post.

Christmas items on sale

An assortment of discounted Christmas items will be on sale in the main aisle of Building 1A and in Building 11 by the credit union.

This year, Christmas teddy bears and stuffed animals, candy, sweatshirts and fleece jackets, holiday decorations, fine leather and suede purses/gloves, and holiday ornaments will be featured.

Cinnamon roasted nuts and breads will also be on sale every Tuesday and Thursday during the holiday season. Cost is \$2 each.

Commissary closed on Thanksgiving

The Tobyhanna Commissary will be closed Thursday and Friday. Normal operating hours will resume Saturday.

Christmas products are now available for purchase for a holiday gift.

Patrons can place an order for a fruit basket at the commissary or by calling Rich or Sarah, 570-895-7957.

Women's Club sponsors trip

The Tobyhanna Women's Club is sponsoring a bus trip for a day of shopping at the Pennsylvania Holiday Craft Show at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg Dec. 1.

A bus will depart from the depot parking lot at 7:45 a.m. and return at about 7 p.m.

Cost is \$22 per person. Price includes round trip bus transportation and admission to the show.

To reserve a seat on the bus, call Eileen Rizzo, X57336, or Emma Olsommer, X56265.



Paul Baumes, standing, teaches a class of depot employees how to build, troubleshoot and repair fiber optic cables and connectors. He has trained more than 100 field service representatives and depot employees. Baumes is assisted by Dave Jurosky. Both are training instructors in the Business Management Directorate's Technical Development Division. (Photo by Steve Grzezdzinski)

Keen eye, soft touch needed to work with glass wires

by Anthony Ricchiazzi
Editor

An instructor is training Army civilians in building cables that can transmit gigabytes of information in the form of light.

Paul Baumes, an instructor in the Technical Development Division, has taught more than 100 field service representatives and depot employees how to build and repair fiber optic cables. He is assisted by Dave Jurosky, another instructor.

One fiber optic, a strand of special glass as thin as a human hair, can transmit more data faster than copper wires.

"Tobyhanna has been working with fiber optics for more than 10 years," said Cal Morgan, chief of the Electronic Services Division, Systems Integration and Support Directorate. "We repair, fabricate and test fiber optics systems."

"I've been training field service representatives for the PM TOCs (program manager of the Tactical Operations Center system), 'Reach Back' individuals and depot employees who asked for the training," Baumes said.

Reach Back individuals are those who fill a field service

representative's slot at a Forward Repair Activity when the representative deploys overseas.

The 40-hour course is composed of hands-on training and practical exercises in how to construct fiber optic patch cords using various connector ends and second generation tactical fiber optic cable assemblies, called TFOCA II.

A TFOCA II is a fiber optic cable composed of four fiber optic connectors mounted into a plug or receptacle. Patch cords are fiber optic cables used to link equipment to a fiber optic network.

The course is divided into introduction to basic fiber optic repair and construction, utilizing connectors in multimode cable and specifics of TFOCA II.

There are two primary types of fiber optic cables, multimode and single mode. Multimode fiber optic cables use light emitting diodes to transmit data via multiple modes of light simultaneously. "It is used for short distance transmission, such as LANs (local area networks) up to two kilometers (1.24 miles)," Baumes said.

Single mode fiber optics requires a laser light source to

See FIBER OPTICS on Page 7

Employee survives combat mission, earns award

Page 3

Into the great outdoors

Pages 4, 5

Officials talk of change for Guard deployments

Page 6

Ministry in the combat zone

(The following is a commentary by Chaplain (Capt.) James Key, a Task Force Unit Ministry Trainer at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif.)

FORT IRWIN, Calif. - As a Task Force Unit Ministry Trainer I am responsible for training chaplains and chaplains' assistants for combat ministry.

During each training rotation I have an opportunity to remind Unit Ministry Teams that unlike churches back home, chapel service in the combat zone is dirty, dusty and raw.

There are no frills and thrills or glitter and gleam. People do not come to service in designer suits, fancy hats and alligator shoes, or drive expensive cars to service. Instead, Soldiers in military uniforms arrive by foot or in military trucks.

I remind UMT's that the chapels downrange are not made of wood or brick. They do not have stained glass windows, red carpet, chandeliers hanging from the ceiling, expensive pews, a fellowship hall or a pastor's study. Instead, most worship services take place in a tent surrounded by a cement wall to protect everyone from incoming fire.

And yet, ironically, it was in this context, during my deployment in Baghdad, that I saw many Soldiers make radical spiritual changes in their lives. War - just as other unscheduled life events like death, sickness, tragedy and hardship - can challenge individuals to say "yes" or "no" to the questions of faith and religion.

Whoever said "There are no atheists in the foxhole" was absolutely right. The reality of war forces many to do some

serious soul searching.

During my deployment, young Soldiers from my unit faithfully came to chapel service with a Bible in one hand and an M-16 or 9mm in the other hand. They prayed with their eyes closed tightly, singing songs of praise and worship from the bottom of their hearts and depth of their souls. They will, I believe, never be the same.

Who are these young brave souls who serve our nation? They are the children of teachers, truck drivers, factory workers, secretaries, shipyard workers, firefighters, police officers, military veterans, bus drivers, nurses and many other professionals.

They hail from cities, suburbs and rural areas. They are the MTV, BET, CMT, Xbox, PlayStation and Game Boy generation, doing something that most Americans would never dare to do.

There was a time when I considered leaving the ministry. Then a friend asked me to join the military chaplaincy. It changed my life. Every day I have an opportunity to help guide Soldiers and their families through the "Circle of Life" from births, baptisms, confirmations, marriage, illness and death.

As I continue to serve my country, I pray that God empower all UMT's to effectively minister to Soldiers in places like Iraq and Afghanistan. I pray that each Soldier on the battlefield experiences spiritual growth in their chosen faith.

Because after all, war is hell, freedom is expensive, death is painful and faith still matters - especially to those in the combat zone.



U.S. Navy Lt. Kenny Lee, left, chaplain, prays with an unidentified U.S. Marine, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, during a break in the action during Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Department of Defense photo)

Time to pause, count blessings

In 1789, President George Washington declared the first National Day of Thanksgiving. Years later, with America engaged in a costly civil war, President Abraham Lincoln revived what is now an annual tradition.

As American Soldiers, Army civilians and their families pause to consider and rejoice in our many blessings, we are personally thankful for your hard work and dedication in defense of America's ideals and liberty.

Your efforts in this time of war are as monumental as they are critical. Sergeant Major of the Army Preston joins us in wishing each of you a joyous and safe Thanksgiving.

Because hazards increase with personal travel, it is important that you concentrate on safety, check your equipment, increase your risk mitigation efforts, and remain

defensive at all times. Plan ahead and don't be in a hurry to arrive.

Commanders and first line leaders must continue to take an active role. The Army Safety Management Information System-2 privately owned vehicle risk assessment is a proven tool to help identify travel hazards and implement risk controls <https://crc.army.mil/home/>.

Ensure risk assessments and safety awareness briefings are completed prior to Soldiers travels. Leaders must stay engaged to eliminate loss. The combat readiness center stands ready to assist. Visit <https://www.crc.army.mil>.

Army Strong.

**Dr. Francis J. Harvey, Secretary of the Army
Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, Army Chief of Staff**

Red Cross Blood Drive

The depot's Red Cross blood drive dates are the first and third Wednesday of each month. To schedule an appointment, employees must obtain supervisory approval and then call X57091.



TOBYHANNA REPORTER

The Tobyhanna Reporter is an authorized, biweekly publication for members of the Department of Defense.

Contents of the Tobyhanna Reporter are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army. The 6,000 copies are printed by a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. government, under exclusive written contract with Tobyhanna Army Depot.

The editor reserves the right to edit all information submitted for

publication. News may be submitted to the Tobyhanna Reporter, Tobyhanna Army Depot, 11 Hap Arnold Boulevard, Tobyhanna, Pa., 18466-5076. (Internal Mail Stop 5076.) Telephone (570) 895-7557 or DSN 795-7557.

The Tobyhanna Reporter staff can also be reached by electronic mail using the following addresses:

Anthony.Ricchiazzi@tobyhanna.army.mil
Jacqueline.Boucher@tobyhanna.army.mil

**Commander, Col. Ron Alberto
Public Affairs Officer, Kevin M. Toolan
Editor, Anthony J. Ricchiazzi
Assistant Editor, Jacqueline R. Boucher
Photographers, Anthony S. Medici, Steve Grzezdzinski**



**PRINTED ON PARTIALLY RECYCLED PAPER.
PLEASE RECYCLE AS OFFICE QUALITY PAPER.**

TEAM

TOBYHANNA

EXCELLENCE IN

ELECTRONICS

Warfighter earns combat badge for service during uprising in Iraq

by Jacqueline Boucher
Assistant Editor

The U.S. Army Combat Action Badge was awarded to an electronics equipment inspector for actions under hostile fire during combat operations in Iraq during April 2004.

Retired Staff Sgt. Ray Krzak was assigned to the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, Battery Bravo, (Forward) 1st 109th Field Artillery when his unit was tasked to provide force protection security and to help stabilize police stations that had been overrun by local citizens.

The combat action badge provides special recognition to Soldiers who personally engage or are engaged by the enemy in wartime. Soldiers performing assigned duties in an area where hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay is authorized qualify for the badge.

Krzak works in the Quality Improvement Division, Productivity, Improvement and Innovation Directorate. During the war he was the noncommissioned officer in charge of an 11-person squad.

"It was because of Desert Storm that I decided to join the Army," Krzak said. "I'd already served eight years in the Marines and figured I could share my expertise to help train others."

He retired in May 2005 after serving 13 years in the Army National Guard.

While deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom, more than 120 Soldiers spent five days securing an area that Army officials said was the "most hostile territory in Baghdad



Ray Krzak, left, earned the U.S. Army Combat Action Badge for actions under hostile fire in Iraq. Col. Ron Alberto presented the medal during an awards ceremony Nov. 2. (Photo by Tony Medici)

in April." Before reinforcements arrived, the Soldiers repeatedly faced threats, sniper shootings from roof tops, roadside bombs and ambushes, and typical revolt against authority, according to official reports.

"This is a big deal," Col. Ron Alberto, depot commander, said of the Combat Action Badge. "We didn't have the opportunity before this badge was created to recognize Soldiers outside the infantry field for their combat action. Now every single person who is engaging with the enemy is being recognized."

"On behalf of the Marine Corps, myself and the U.S. Army, I appreciate what you did for us over there," he said.

The reports described an uprising in a town outside Baghdad forcing military members and police to take fighting positions in an effort to gain control of several police stations scattered through the city.

Krzak explained that Soldiers were stationed around the roof of the police station; however, the surrounding buildings were higher, allowing the enemy to shoot at them from rooftops and through peepholes. People were even throwing grenades and firing rocket propelled grenades, he added.

"Hostile action was sporadic throughout our 12-month deployment," said Krzak. "However, this was an intense operation."

Krzak struggled with his emotions when he started to talk about the members of his squad.

"I'm so proud of all of them," he said. "They really proved themselves on the battlefield."

He was 51 when his unit deployed and had submitted his retirement papers three days earlier. He remembered telling the first sergeant he'd have to "do it later" [retire] as he headed off to war. The chief of fire direction control section for the 109th Bravo Battery artillery soon found himself training to be a member of the combat military police with other Soldiers at Fort Dix. Once in Iraq, the Soldiers performed security patrols, house searches and escort duties, he said.

"I'll tell you, running through the streets of Baghdad wearing a full combat load isn't easy," Krzak said. "But, I'd do it again if they needed me."

COMSEC supply technician claims depot quarterly award

by Jacqueline Boucher
Assistant Editor

A Communications Systems Directorate employee earned the Tobyhanna Army Depot Employee of the Quarter award for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2006.

Sean Namlick a supply technician in the directorate's Communications Security (COMSEC) Division, earned the award by streamlining procedures for withdrawing assets for the COMSEC Reset mission.

Namlick controls the movement all of assets going in and out of the maintenance facility, managing shipments within three cost centers totaling up to 15,000 items monthly. Coworkers recognized his outstanding performance and nominated him for the award.

"This was an unexpected honor," Namlick said. "The opportunities I've received working here are great."

Not only are employees able to ship things within a shorter timeframe, they're able to do it with fewer steps.

Namlick said he's always looking for ways to do the job more efficiently. Prior computer experience enabled him to devise a plan to cut redundant procedures by 75 percent—what used to take 20 minutes to complete now takes five minutes, and requires less paperwork.

"While looking through LMP (Logistics Modernization Program), I found a way to do the job quicker with fewer transactions," Namlick said. "I was able to delete five transactions."

Coworkers characterize Namlick as someone with a strong work ethic who leads by example and is devoted to the depot's mission. He anticipates problems and works towards the solution before a crisis evolves, according to the nomination package.

"The standard operating procedure Sean developed allowed me to do my job more effectively by setting up a specific LMP batch with an assigned project code that is now recognized as our 'Reset batch,'" said Aryanna Strader, electronics mechanic, COMSEC Accounts and Documentation Branch. "Now, when item managers need to pull assets to have them shipped

to the warfighter the process is more streamlined.

"Sean is a fantastic coworker and is always there to lend a helping hand. He is very deserving of Employee of the Quarter," Strader said.

Kelly Jordan has worked with the quarterly award winner for about two years. Since moving from material handler to supply technician, Namlick has come up with simpler standard operating procedures for COMSEC, and has done a tremendous job, according to Jordan.

"He's more than willing to help anyone out and goes above and beyond his call of duty. Sean is a very good friend and I'm glad I had the chance to work with him."

Around the shop, Namlick is known for his clear thinking, boundless energy, good judgment and ability to solve difficult problems, according to his coworkers.

"When I started working in my new position here, Sean helped me learn a lot of the transactions I needed to use to accomplish my job," said Duane Delk, supply technician. "If he didn't know, he got the answer for me. No matter how many times I asked how to do something, he took the time to show me."

"Sean's job directly affects all of COMSEC, his accuracy and professionalism is a greatly appreciated asset to our team."

A Tobyhanna employee since January 2004, the supply technician feels he's found his "niche" working at the depot.

"Everyone here is great," Namlick said. "The only way for me to get to where I am is because of all the people I work with. Everyone has been very helpful."

All civilian employees are eligible for the Employee of the Quarter Award. Winners can also receive an optional special parking space for the quarter in addition to the \$500 cash award and plaque. Workers selected as an employee of the quarter are eligible to compete at the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command-level.

To nominate an employee, co-workers must submit AMSEL-TY Form 2035-R-E to the Incentive Awards office, mail stop 5081. For further information, call Lisa Pavlishin, Incentive Awards program manager, X59249.



Sean Namlick was awarded the Tobyhanna quarterly award for streamlining procedures in the COMSEC Accounts and Documentation Branch. (Photo by Steve Grzezdzinski)

An outdoorsman is someone who spends considerable time in outdoor pursuits, such as hunting and fishing. It's a lifestyle three Tobyhanna employees embrace—their finely honed skills matching their passion for the outdoors. Fran Flynn, Jackie Vass and Gene Garofoli share a love of hunting, each traveling throughout America and Canada in search of great adventures.

They all started hunting at a young age, learning by watching friends and family, attending hunter's education courses and from hands-on experience.

Flynn's eyes light up as he recounts stories of his trips to the wilds of Canada, Texas, Yukon Territory, South Dakota and Montana, hunting elk, moose, Dall sheep, deer, black bear, turkey and cougar.

If asked, he'll tell you he's been hunting forever. He still remembers the first time his father took him hunting—because it was also the last.

"Dad was very safety conscious and thought hunting was too dangerous," Flynn explained. "I had such a desire to hunt and there was no one around to teach me, so I learned by reading books and magazines."

Growing up in Hamlin, he and his brother used to spend summers scouting the woodlots on the property his parents rented. He was legal to hunt on his own at 16.

"The first day I went alone, I shot a squirrel," he said. "I didn't have clue how to field dress the animal, and after a few failed attempts I just buried it and went home." He spent the following week reading Outdoor Life magazines, until he found an article on how to gut a squirrel. "The next Saturday I got another squirrel, dressed it and brought it home for dinner—that's how I learned to hunt."

Today he uses the World Wide Web, books, outdoors shows and word of mouth to find the information he seeks. Over the years, Flynn has learned to recognize traits of different animals and how to track them.

"I've hunted just about everything in Pennsylvania, except elk," Flynn said, admitting that a trophy-size white-tail deer was his nemesis.

He hunted trophy-sized white-tails in Pennsylvania, New York and Montana for years using a muzzle loader, bow or rifle, taking



Flynn is the chief of the Logistics Support Activity Packaging, Storage and Containerization Center, which is part of the U.S. Army Materiel Command.

Flynn shot this Dall Sheep while hunting in the Yukon Territory.

ANSWERING THE CALL OF THE WILD

by Jacqueline Boucher
Assistant Editor

many deer, but never that trophy buck. On the advice of another hunter, he went to Canada.

Flynn said it was 20 degrees below zero on the last day of the hunt when he got his first trophy buck. And it was during his third trip, amidst stories of a "monster buck," that he got a 16-point, 270-pound buck that scored 182 points Boone and Crockett. The Boone and Crockett Club scoring system is the universally accepted standard for measuring North American big game. The scoring system depends upon carefully taken measurements of the enduring trophy characteristics to arrive at a numerical final score that provides instant ranking for all trophies of a category. By measuring only enduring characters (such as antlers, horns and skulls) rather than skin length or carcass weight, the measurements may be repeated at any later date to verify both the measurements and the resulting ranking in each category, according to the club's Web site.

"All I could think was 'holy mackerel,'" Flynn said, remembering how the animal came within 100 yards of his tree stand just as it was getting dark.

Flynn confessed that hunting North America's largest game bird is what he enjoys most. He travels the country in search of the four species of wild turkey.

"Hunting turkey is one of the biggest challenges," he said. Adult males, known as toms or gobblers, normally weigh between 16 and 24 pounds.

"As far as turkeys go, anyone can go out and shoot one turkey. In fact, at times it can be easy," Flynn said.

"But to consistently take trophy gobblers in the spring or fall is a challenge. Their eyesight and hearing are far superior to ours and unlike whitetails they do see color. Plus, they are far less curious than whitetails. It's been said that if a whitetail sees a motionless hunter in the woods he first thinks it's a tree stump. In contrast, if a turkey sees a tree stump in the woods he thinks it's a hunter. Many claim if a gobbler had a sense of smell like a white-tailed deer, you would never kill one."

"For me the challenge is compounded by hunting these birds across the United States in extremely varying topography and hunting conditions," he added. "For example, this spring we hunted the completely flat crop fields of Oklahoma and then moved to the mountains of Montana covered with Ponderosa pines. To hunt trophy birds under all of these varying conditions, with no guides, on lands you've never stepped foot on before can indeed be a challenge."

Flynn considers the Merriams [a species of turkey with white tipped tails and the most white on their body] found in a southeast section of Montana to be the "prettiest of all."

"I did the research and found that area had the best bloodline for the Merriams," he said. "If you're going to get your money's worth and increase your percentage of bringing home a trophy animal, you

need to do your research."

Hunting is also a sport that requires strength and stamina, according to Flynn, who lifts weights, jogs, and rides road and mountain bikes to stay in shape.

A cougar hunt 11,000 feet up in the Utah high country tested his mettle as he followed tracks from the road into knee-deep snow, ran after dogs and blazed trails through the mountains.

"I can see how a person can die up there," he said. "One guy would blaze the trail for 50 yards and we'd all sit down to rest."

Flynn said he trains hard for these hunts and "now it's not only the hunting I love, but all the other things I've picked up as part of my training routine."

Since she was a little girl, Vass has always dreamed of being able to hunt and harvest a cougar. That dream came true in Utah earlier this year. The trophy was easily bigger than the diminutive hunter that stalked it through the woods—7 feet long, 160 pounds.

"My first gun was a 410 pump (shotgun); a gift from my mom," Vass said. "I've always loved the challenge of hunting and its something that allows me to spend time with my family."

There's a lot more to hunting that just pulling the trigger, she remarked. "Education is a necessary tool to becoming a successful hunter." Her teachers were her mother, father, grandfather and brother.

Today, Vass is a hunter education instructor, boating safety instructor and a field reporter for the Pennsylvania Outdoor Life television show. She's also the depot deputy game warden and was the vice president of her college rifle team.

Vass does a lot of research looking for places and animals to hunt. She recommends talking to people, and scouting different outfitters by checking references and success rates. It's best to deal with experts who know the rules and regulations when hunting in unfamiliar territory, she said.

"If you don't know the area, your chances of getting something are slim," Vass said. "You're better off with a guide. They know where the animals are."

Hunting since she was 12 years old, Vass has harvested bear, deer and turkeys.

"I was with my father and brother when I got my bear," she said. "Every time I've gotten a big animal, a family member has been there to experience it with me." Her husband was with her when she got her cougar.

Recounting her adventure, she said the dogs had finally treed the cougar in the mountains of Utah. She relived her trek through canyons and streams where she had to grab tree branches to get to the next level. This went on for hours, she said.

"When I thought I couldn't make it another step, my husband, George, would reinforce what was waiting at the top of the mountain," Vass said. "When we finally got to the tree and looked up, there was the most prestigious animal I had ever seen."



Vass is chief of the Community Recreation Division, Community Services Directorate.



Vass was hunting with her father and brother when she shot this black bear.

She aimed, shot and watched the animal fall from the tree. The cougar landed on the ground about 10 feet from where she was standing. It got up and ran 200 yards before the dogs treed it again. Vass fired again, and watched it fall only to get up a second time. A short time later, the hunters found the trophy cougar at the base of a tree just 50 yards away.

Vass lives on 20 acres not more than a mile from where she grew up in Hamlin.

"There is a big field with woods behind us," Vass said. "Often my husband and I will sit on the back porch calling turkeys. It's fun to listen to the different sounds to determine what's going on."

Despite a busy schedule, hunting always came first for Vass, who hunts with rifle, shotgun and bow.

"I always came home from college for the first day of buck season."

She said people are always surprised at her ability. "They see me in a business suit and are surprised to see my office decorated with photographs of my hunts."

When Garofoli retires from Tobyhanna in 2008, he plans to spend four months of the year hunting and fishing.

There's no rocking chair in this record holder's future. "My father taught me to hunt when I was young," Garofoli said. "I intend to hunt until the day I die."

Raised in the mountains, he said spending a day outdoors is the best cure for whatever ails him. His love of nature has taken him to British Columbia, Colorado, Wyoming and Maine in search of the next trophy to hang on his wall.

"I've hunted in nine states and two provinces [Canada]," Garofoli said, reminiscing about the mountain goat, deer, mule deer, elk, wild boar, black bear, antelope and wild turkey he's tracked through the wilderness.

Garofoli gets ideas for places to travel and hunt from friends, relatives and sports shows. His travel itinerary for hunting a mountain goat included traveling 25 miles on horseback, hiking for another six miles and climbing 4,000 feet.

In 1984, Garofoli earned a spot in the Virginia record books after shooting a triple-bearded wild turkey. He explained that the turkey's beard grows larger for each year of life. Normally it's between 8 and 11 inches long on a three-year-old bird.



Garofoli is an electronics mechanic in the Range Threat Systems Division; Command, Control and Computers—Avionics Systems Directorate.



Garofoli used his bow to get this 7-point white-tailed deer during the 2005 hunting season.

"The bird I got was supposedly five years old," Garofoli said. "It weighed 22 pounds, 8 ounces and had three separate beards. That's especially rare in Pennsylvania," he said.

A life-long hunter, Garofoli prefers archery to the muzzle-loader or rifle. He said it's a more precise form of hunting because variables such as wind, obstacles [trees], and movement can affect the shot.

"I take my bow when hunting for turkey in the spring," he said. "With the bow everything has to be perfect before taking the shot. You can kill anything with a rifle; it takes skill to be good with the bow."

An advocate of safety and education, Garofoli taught the hunter safety course for 19 years in Jessup, the town where he grew up. He now lives in Olyphant.

To be successful, he said "education is important, but experience is better." The more people you hunt with, the more educated and experienced you will become, he explained. He added that a good hunter also needs to apply a healthy dose of common sense to each situation.

Garofoli has leased a farm for 18 years and looks forward to taking the time to scout the area and put up a couple of tree stands in an effort to "out smart" the white-tailed deer. Hunters often stake out areas where deer feed, travel between feeding and bedding areas, scrapes and places deer frequent.

"The white-tailed deer is the most challenging animal to hunt," he said. "They're unpredictable, making it impossible to know where they will be from one day to the next. And to make things more difficult, deer use scent, sight and sound to survive. I've gone on a lot of hunts, but it's the 'fair chase' of the white-tailed deer that brings me back each year," he said. Fair chase is the ethical, sportsmanlike, and lawful pursuit and taking of free-ranging wild game animals in a manner that does not give the hunter an improper or unfair advantage over the animal.

Statistics suggest that the two-week antlered deer rifle season is one of Pennsylvania's most popular hunts. Other favorites include the three-day antlerless deer rifle season, fall wild turkey, bear and spring gobbler.

Opening day for buck season is Monday, and as most of Tobyhanna's employees get up for work that morning, Flynn, Vass and Garofoli will have already joined thousands of other hunters throughout the state in search of their next adventure.

Tobyhanna Lean practices praised at Pentagon ceremony

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey presented four Army Materiel Command organizations the 2006 Shingo Prize Public Sector Award for achievement in implementing Lean systems in support of the Army business transformation process in the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon on Nov. 15.

"The goal of Army business transformation is to achieve major reductions in cost and cycle time while improving the productivity and quality of output in all our business operations and, thereby, free up resources for our operational missions," Harvey told the audience.

"So, I am extremely proud of the four organizations that we are recognizing here today," the secretary said. "The recognition by the award of the 2006 Shingo Prize Public Sector Award demonstrates that the Army is making significant progress in achieving its business transformation goals."

Established in 1988, the Shingo Prize has been referred to by Business Week as the "Nobel prize of manufacturing," because it establishes a standard for world-class excellence."

In the case of the four Army organizations, the prize represents their steadfastness in manufacturing, repair, overhaul and maintenance of warfighter equipment.

Broken into four categories - platinum, gold, silver and bronze - the Shingo Prize was awarded to the following:

Gold—Rock Island Arsenal, Joint Manufacturing and

Technology Center, Rock Island, Ill., for its work on the Forward Repair System. RIA is the first Army command to win at the gold level.

Silver—Letterkenny Army Depot, Chambersburg, for its work on the Humvee.

Silver—Red River Army Depot, Texarkana, Texas, for its work on the Humvee.

Bronze—Tobyhanna Army Depot, for its work on the AN/TPS-75 radar system.

Col. Ron Alberto, Tobyhanna's commander, said his command earned the Shingo Prize for achieving a 31 percent reduction in repair-cycle time and a 25 percent reduction in repair costs on the Air Force's primary air-defense radar system.

"The prize reflects our commitment to Lean Six Sigma and quality improvement, but more importantly to taking care of our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines on the battlefield," Alberto said.

According to Shingo Prize officials, the AMC organizations were all evaluated by on-site examiners. They were scored in cost improvement, leadership, empowerment, vision and strategy, innovation and development, partnering practices with suppliers and customers, environmental practices, quality and results, and consistent improvement in each of those areas. (Army News Service)



Army Secretary Francis J. Harvey (left) and Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, Commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command, present depot commander Col. Ron Alberto with the Shingo Prize Public Sector Award (Bronze) at the Pentagon for achievement in implementing Lean systems in support of the Army business transformation process. (Photo by J.D. Leipold)

Fewer, more predictable Guard deployments coming

by Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo — Changes being made in the way the force is structured, trains and deploys ultimately will mean fewer deployments and more predictability for individual troops, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff told National Guardsmen Nov. 14.

Marine Gen. Peter Pace told about 500 National Guard troops wrapping up a year-long deployment with Kosovo Force 7 the most important thing the military can offer them is a basic idea of when and how frequently they'll be called up for duty.

Questions from the group focused on the frequency and length of National Guard deployments, as well as train-up time between mobilization and deployment. This pre-deployment training typically brings Guardsmen's full active-duty time to 18 to 24 months.

Pace said the benchmark he'd like to see on the active force is a one-year deployment, followed by two years at home station before deploying again. For Guardsmen and reservists, the ideal would be five years at home between one-year deployments, he said. Efforts under way are helping make this goal achievable, Pace said.

The Army is building its active brigade

combat teams from 33 to 42, and now has 36, he noted. At the same time, the Guard is reducing from 34 brigades that weren't totally manned or equipped to 28 brigades that will be, he said.

These initiatives will provide 18 to 19 Army brigades, as well as one or two Marine regimental combat brigades, ready to deploy at any given time. Pace said this would ensure "a sustainable tempo" for troops that matches his deployment benchmarks.

The problem for now, he said, is that current operations require 25 brigade-size units at a time. That demand will require more frequent deployments until the force restructure is completed, he said.

Another problem is that many Guardsmen and reservists needed for these rotations already volunteered for deployments in the early days of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Deploying volunteers as individuals, rather than calling entire units to duty involuntarily, "made really good sense -- until Iraq came along," he said. "And then we needed units in Iraq."

Many troops in those units already had served voluntary deployments in Afghanistan, so they weren't required to deploy again. That left holes in their units that had to be filled by pulling troops from other units, he said, solving the short-term problem but exacerbating the long-term one.

"We're up now, after doing this for four or five years, to having some units having to pull from seven, eight or nine different units to

kludge together the unit you need," Pace said. "We need to stop that. And we need to stop it on a predictable basis."

Pace said the best way to do that is to "reset the clock and do it properly."

Every Guardsman and reservist would be told "where you are in your cycle — when you are going to be eligible to go for one year and when you're not going to be eligible for the next five years," he said.

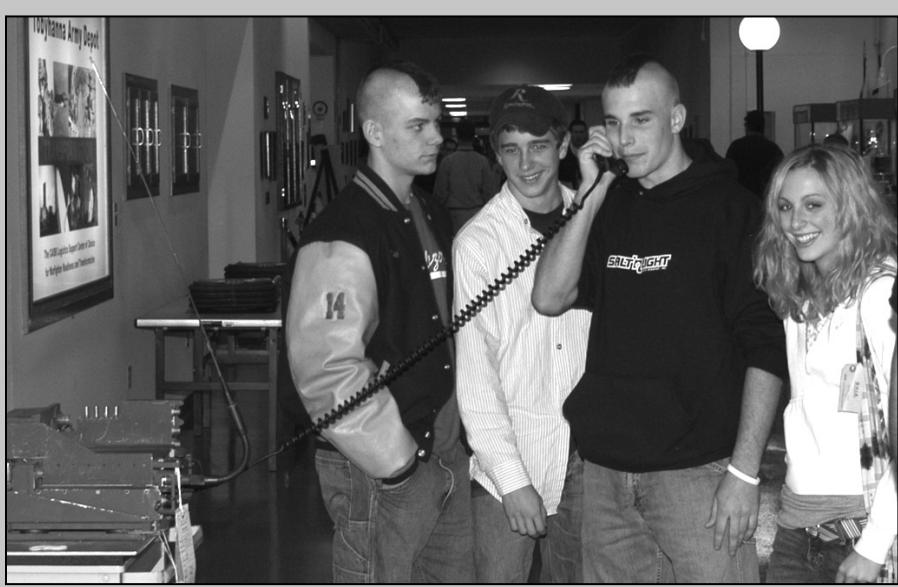
The cycle would continue, regardless of whether a deployment-eligible troop actually deployed. "And we'll just keep the cycle going so that trainers, recruiters, everybody in the unit understands when you are eligible to go and when you're not," he said.

This predictable timeline will help Guardsmen and reservists tailor time between deployments to hone skills they will need for their next deployment, the chairman said.

In doing so, he said, they can reduce the training they need after they're mobilized for that deployment and speed up the timetable, he said.

Pace emphasized that while this formula would work well for routine missions that can be planned ahead, it won't necessarily work in cases "where something strange happens in the world and we need more troops."

When that happens, "we just fight the nation's battles," he said. "But we can give you a predictability of when your unit would be subject to mobilization and activation. And then, if the nation needs more than 20 brigades at a time, we would have to dip into the rest of the pool."



Students take the SMART tour

Cody Hess (left), Matt Kenpinski, Kyle Scherer and Callie Whitesell take turns talking to their classmates on the other end of a Single Channel Ground and Air Radio System. The Northwest Area High School students were here with 25 others on Nov. 15 to participate in the Science, Mathematics and Related Technologies (SMART) tour. About 31 students from Northwest, Monroe Career and Technical Institute, and Lakeland High School participated on Nov. 16. They visited Tobyhanna to learn about career opportunities and the education requirements for specific fields. Activities included tours, presentations and hands-on demonstrations. (Photo by Anthony Ricchiazzi)



[HTTP://WWW.TOBYHANNA.ARMY.MIL/ABOUT/NEWS/REPORTER.HTML](http://WWW.TOBYHANNA.ARMY.MIL/ABOUT/NEWS/REPORTER.HTML)

READ THE
Tobyhanna Reporter

ON THE DEPOT'S INTERNET SITE.

CURRENT AND ARCHIVED ISSUES OF THE
BI-WEEKLY PUBLICATION CAN BE VIEWED AT

WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name

John Czar
Ricardo Gelpi
Keith Hill
Jennifer Johnson
Charles Miller
John Mohla
Carmelo Rivera
James Sinclair

Title

Electronics technician
Electronics measurement equip. mech.
Electronics worker
Administrative assistant
Electronics digital computer mechanic
Technical equipment illustration
Painter
Electronics measurement equip. mech.

Organization

D/PE
D/SIS
D/ISR
DDTP
D/C3-Avionics
D/PE
D/SIS
TMDE

THANKS

My husband, John, and I want to thank our many friends and co-workers for the kindness shown at the time of my sister's death Oct. 28. Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated.

Celine Tiel

Civilian Personnel Advisor Center

We wish to express our appreciation to everyone who sent their condolences to comfort us during the recent passing of my mother. To know that so many people took the time to send up their prayers and thoughts is truly a blessing and we are grateful. May God bless all of you.

Audrey and John Bandru
family of Lucille Battle

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Editor's Note: The Community Bulletin provides an avenue for depot and tenant employees to advertise van or car pools, and for-sale items. Money making items such as rentals and personal business will not be accepted.

Information must be submitted via e-mail to Jacqueline Boucher@tobyhanna.army.mil, or written items can be mailed to the Public Affairs Office, mail stop 5076.

Submissions must include a name and telephone extension. Only home phone numbers will be published in the Trading Post section.

Ads will be published in four consecutive newspapers. It is the customer's responsibility to update or renew items listed in the Community Bulletin.

For more information, call Jacqueline Boucher, X58073.



VAN/CAR POOLS

- **Dunmore, Jessup, surrounding area:** openings, van, nonsmoking, 7 passengers, pick up at Holiday Inn in Dunmore, 5/4/9, call Yvette Pollack, X56475.
- **Bloomsburg, Berwick area:** individual needs a ride, van, bus or car, call Jim Sinclair, X57646.

- **Taylor, Scranton:** 2 openings, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, pick up on Moosic Street, call Steve or Matt, X58727.
- **Lehigh Valley or Wind Gap:** individual seeks ride, van or car pool, 3:30 p.m. to midnight shift, call Craig Tshudy, X56978.
- **Lenoxville:** starting new van pool, 5/4/9, call Bob Tonkin, X57240.
- **Maplewood, Lake Henry Road, Route 348 and Mt. Cobb:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, door-to-door pickup, call Jane Allarddyce, X57645 or Tim Reimann, X57756.
- **Wilkes-Barre:** 2 openings, van, nonsmoking, 15 passengers, leaves Sam's Club parking lot at 5:45 a.m., 5/4/9, additional openings may be available, call John Alden, X58640.
- **Miners Mill, Pittston:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, nonsmoking, pick up at Schiels Market in Miners Mill or Pollack Chevrolet on Route 315 in Pittston, call John Kozich, X57450.
- **Dunmore:** 2 openings, van, 7 passengers, nonsmoking, door-to-door pickup, 5/4/9, available Jan. 1, call TomStasko, X57930.
- **Factoryville:** 1 opening, 5/4/9, pick up at the VFW in Clarks Summit, call Norm White, X57520.
- **Blakeslee:** individual seeks van pool, call Allen, X58550.

- **Wilkes-Barre, Miners Mills:** 2 openings, van, 15 passengers, 5/4/9, call Joe Walski, X57240.

- **Dickson City:** 1 opening, van, 7 passengers, 5/4/9, "A" placard, no smoking, call Dave Stevens, X59065.



TRADING POST

- **Mobile Home:** 3 bedrooms, located on clean, quiet park off Route 307, in North Pocono School District, asking \$22,500 OBO, call 335-0079.
- **Ford Focus:** 2000, ZX3, 83,000 miles, new tires, winterized, CD player, 5-speed, clean/no rust, 37 mph, asking \$4,000 call Eric, 234-5795.
- **Misc. items:** utility dump cart, \$140; tow-behind lawn sweeper, \$400; tow-behind lawn sprayer, \$200; lawn roller, \$100; Canon S750 and S600 printers, \$100 each; corner computer desk, \$250; glass-top computer desk with two file drawers; television swivel stand, \$200, call Adrienne, 853-3113.
- **Harley Davidson Sportster:** 2003, 1200XLC, 100th anniversary edition, 2,500 miles, blue with chrome, asking \$9.500, call Heather, (570) 236-8838.

FIBER OPTICS from Page 1

transmit data beyond two kilometers. Single mode fiber will only allow one light source at a time to be transmitted.

"Fiber optics is the wave of the future," Baumes said. "It's being used more and more as the demand for real-time data transmission continues to grow on and off the Electronic Battlefield."

Fiber Optics training includes termination techniques, fiber optic connector polishing, testing of complete cable assemblies and troubleshooting faulty cables.

Termination techniques entail constructing 4-channel cables with specially designed termini built specifically for TFOCA connectors and following procedures to ensure fiber optic cables meet specifications.

"Connector polishing means literally polishing the end of a fiber optic strand. Once construction of a connector is accomplished, there is excess fiber strand that is scribed (or etched so excess glass can be removed with minimal damage) and removed following specific procedures. The end must then be polished so it transmits light beams as efficiently as possible," Baumes said. "Polishing is done by affixing the cable end into a 'polishing puck' and rubbing it in a figure eight motion over polishing paper."

The paper has very fine grits, from 12

microns to .3 microns, and can be aluminum oxide or diamond paper. A 400x power microscope is required to check the polished end of the glass strand. Baumes noted that the scribing and polishing are the critical parts of the process because signal loss will be significant if these steps are not precisely accomplished.

Tara Grohowski and Michael Ordonia agree that polishing is one of the most difficult challenges.

"The glass is very easy to break," Ordonia said. "If you break it, you have to start all over."

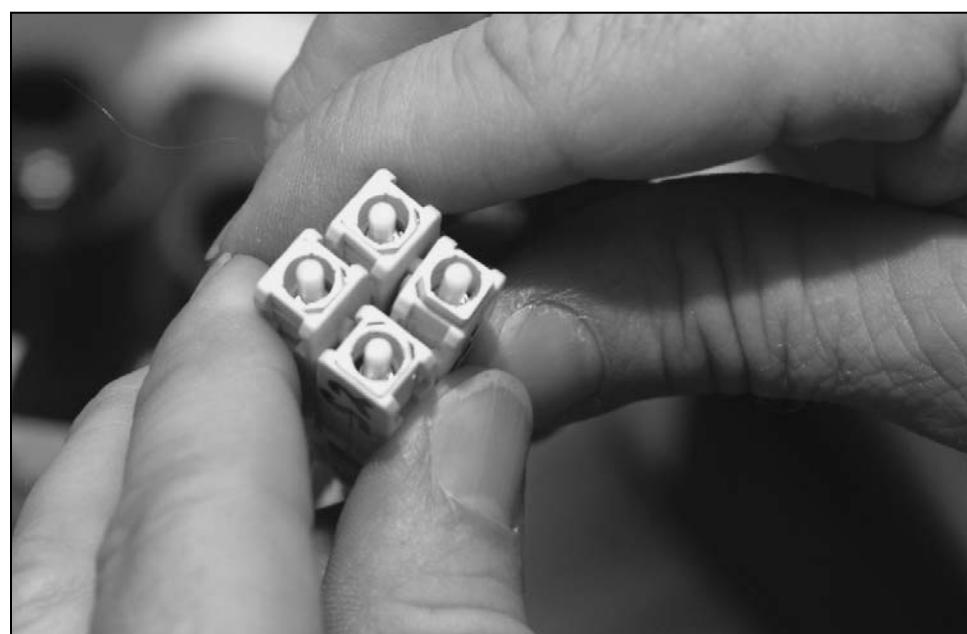
"It all comes down to a proper polish to prevent signal loss," Grohowski added.

Grohowski is an electronics worker in the Command, Control and Computer Systems-Avionics Directorate's Range Threat Division, but is currently working with Reset teams for Tactical Operations Center vehicles at Fort Lewis and Fort Hood.

Ordonia is an electronics equipment specialist assigned to the Forward Repair Activity at Fort Lewis.

Both took the training to make Reset and repair of TOCs easier, noting that fiber optics are used throughout the systems and that they will be able to show Soldiers how to make emergency repairs.

"It's good training and increases our Soldier support," Ordonia said.



Depot employees are learning to build fiber optic connectors like this one. The training is being provided by the Technical Development Division to improve depot support of Tactical Operations Centers. (Photo by Steve Grzezdzinski)

Baumes said the training is not difficult for the students, but the work demands patience due to the delicacy of the components involved and the need for precision and good eye sight.

"If one of the four connectors in a TFOCA II is broken or incorrectly constructed, the entire connector assembly must be redone," Baumes said. "The work is time consuming

and repetitious. The construction process is very sensitive and requires a delicate touch and a good sense of feel to prevent the need for rework. It is an art form that requires repetition in the process to be successful on a regular and consistent basis."

Grohowski said it takes time to learn how to handle the fragile glass, but Baumes and Jurosky are very knowledgeable and helpful.

Operation Santa Claus schedules holiday events

The Operation Santa Claus (OSC) committee offers charitable and gift ideas for the holiday season.

This year, the Tobyhanna Army Depot Federal Credit Union and Army Community Services will help the committee by supporting "Dog Tags for Kids," a special program for Soldiers and their family members, by providing dog tags to children and deployed Soldiers.

The credit union will be accepting donations for this program at the Scranton and Tobyhanna branches. All donations of \$5 or more will receive a special dog tag with the inscription "I Support Our Troops."

Additional fundraising activities are planned throughout the holiday season.

The committee will be selling candy, smidgens and other snacks in the main cafeteria, Building 1A, Annex One and the One Stop Shop.

Donate a toy at the game

The Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins have designated Dec. 15 as Tobyhanna Army Depot and OSC Day, and Dec. 16 as OSC Day.

Fans are encouraged to bring new stuffed animals and toys to the arena. Toys can be dropped off at collection boxes located around the arena. Volunteers will collect the stuffed animals after they're tossed on to the rink after one of the periods. Last year, more than 1,300 stuffed animals and toys were donated.

Discount tickets are available at The One Stop Shop. Games start at 7:05 p.m. Tickets are for the gold section and cost \$12. The Penguins play Toronto Dec. 15, and the Philadelphia Phantoms Dec. 16.

The stuffed animals and toys will be delivered to area hospitals and agencies during the week before Christmas.

Cash Donations

Cash donations may be made to any OSC member or the retail site in the Post Restaurant and Building 1A.

The Federal Credit Union has set up a direct deposit program for members to donate directly to OSC.

Coupon books on sale

The 2007 'Enjoy the City' coupon books are available at the One Stop Shop and the credit union Tobyhanna and Scranton branches. Cost is \$20. There are hundreds of coupons for the area's dining, fast food, sports and retail establishments.

Feature stories sought

The *Tobyhanna Reporter* is looking for feature stories about depot employees. If you have, or know someone who has, an interesting story to tell, contact the *Reporter* staff (see contact information on Page 2).



We've published articles about employee interests ranging from boat racing to blacksmithing; some have earned awards at the highest levels of the Army.

Depots rolls out the red carpet

(Top photo) Lt. Col. Yvonne MacNamara, left, commander of the Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna (DDTP), briefs Lt. Gen. Robert T. Dail, director, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), and Lt. Gen. William E. Mortensen, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC), on her organization's missions during their Wednesday visit to Tobyhanna Army Depot and DDTP.

The visit was part of the ongoing effort between DLA and AMC to address issues related to the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision on supply, storage and distribution functions at Army maintenance depots.

(Bottom photo) Terry Hora, left, Tobyhanna's director of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, briefs Dail, Mortensen and Maj. Gen. Bennie Williams, DLA's director of logistics operations, on the integrated team effort required to repair and overhaul the AN/TPS-75 air defense radar system. Pat Esposito, right, is the depot's director of Production Management. Photos by Steve Grzezdzinski)



Employees join Volksmarch

by Sonya Walls
Army Community Services

About 70 depot employees and family members of all ages participated in a Volksmarch on Nov. 4. Army Community Service and Youth Services hosted the march.

A Volksmarch is a leisurely walk through scenic, historic, or interesting areas over a clearly marked route. The walk is family-oriented and non-competitive.

In Germany, these events were originally termed Volkswanderung (folks wandering). Reportedly, for American military stationed in Germany, this was difficult to understand, so they started using the term Volksmarch.

This Volksmarch was conducted on a 5.1-mile long trail at the Tobyhanna State Park. The trail went through the woods and around the Tobyhanna State Park lake.

The Volksmarch offered an opportunity for families to socialize and get some relaxed exercise.

Control points managed by the Boy Scouts of America Troop 91 were at each mile marker so that walkers could rest and get a bottle of water.

Anyone who completed the walk received a commemorative medal. The Tobyhanna Army Depot chapter of the Association of the United States Army provided hot dogs and drinks.

A Volksmarch is planned for next year.



Robert Young participates in the depot's first Volksmarch. Young is an electronics engineer in the Productivity Improvement and Innovation Directorate. (Photo by Sonya Walls)

Tricare announces updated reimbursement rates

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFPN) -- An updated list of the Tricare reimbursement rates is now available to beneficiaries. The changes for fiscal year 2007 include updated rates for inpatient mental health, residential treatment centers, partial hospitalization, hospice, and inpatient cost-shares for civilian hospitals.

"We take very seriously the president's initiative toward transparency in health care costs," said Army Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director, Tricare Management Activity. "This is just one way we make the cost of medical services available to our beneficiaries."

Tricare reimbursement rates are aligned with Medicare rates as set by Congress. However, Tricare does have some

dispensations that may not be available to Medicare to ensure that beneficiaries continue to have health care available.

"It is important for our service members and their families to know that we will take care of them," General Granger said.

Medicare premiums also change annually and now the Medicare Part B premium is linked to income. In 2007, individual incomes will trigger premium increases at \$80,000, \$100,000, \$150,000 and \$200,000. For married couples the premium rises when the income is double those amounts. However, this change will have no effect on Tricare costs or benefits for those who are also Medicare beneficiaries.

Beneficiaries may view the updated reimbursement rates on the Tricare web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/tricarecost.cfm.